

In the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (currently amended) A tie down system for use with a vehicle, said tie down system comprising:

at least one [mounting track] anchor assembly associated with at least one side of a cargo carrying area;

at least one tie down member having one end fixed in a position on an opposing side of said at least one side, said tie down member having a terminal end with a hook member;

the anchor assembly having at least one hook hanger, said at least one hook hanger adjustably positioned in association with the mounting track at a location to allow the hook member to be positively retained in association with the [anchor assembly] hook hanger over said cargo carrying area;

said hook hanger comprising a [mounting bracket having a mounting profile conforming to said at least one mounting track, and a] hook anchor having a channel for slidably receiving said hook member, and a retaining member selectively positioned such that said hook member will not disengage from said channel.

2. (original) The tie down system of claim 1, wherein mounting tracks are provided on both sides of the cargo carrying area.

3. (original) The tie down system of claim 1, wherein said at least one mounting track is selected from the group consisting of double-L mounting tracks, C-channel mounting tracks, and integral mounting tracks formed in association with said vehicle.

4. (canceled).

5. (original) The tie down system of claim 1, wherein said at least one tie-down member is selected from the group consisting of straps, ropes, chains, cables, and wires.

6. (currently amended) A tie down system for a cargo control system, comprising:
a body member secured in a desired position relative to at least one tie down member of a cargo control system, the tie down member having a hook member associated therewith; and

said body member comprising a downward facing retention channel for insertion of at least a portion of said hook member of the tie down member, wherein said retention channel prevents substantially vertically oriented disengagement of said hook member regardless of the tension applied to said tie down member.

7. (canceled)

8. (previously amended) The tie down system of claim 6, wherein said body member has a mounting structure for selective mounting at a desired position.

9. (canceled)

10. (canceled)

11. (currently amended) The tie down system of claim 6, further comprising a hook retainer which substantially maintains the horizontal position of said hook member relative to said retention channel.

12. (canceled)

13. (currently amended) The tie down system of claim 1, wherein said hook hanger comprises:

a horizontal-movement retainer capable of preventing substantial horizontal movement of said hook member [relative to said body member].

14. (previously amended) The tie down system of claim 11, wherein said hook retainer comprises a retaining bar which is selectively positionable to prevent movement of said hook member out of engagement with said retention channel.

15. (previously amended) The tie down system of claim 13 wherein said hook retainer is positionable between a hook mounting position and a hook retaining position.

16. (cancel)

17. (cancel)

18. (currently amended) The tie down system of claim 1, wherein said hook hanger comprises a first wall positioned in spaced apart relationship to said hook anchor to form said channel adjacent said hook anchor in which a portion of said hook member is received and a second wall extending toward said hook anchor to form an opening, wherein said second wall is positioned to contact the hook member prior to release from the hook anchor to maintain engagement of the hook member with the hook hanger.

19. (currently amended) The tie down system of claim 14, wherein said hook retainer comprises first and second retainer leg members, said first retainer leg member effectively restricting substantial horizontal movement of said hook member in one horizontal direction, and said second retainer leg member effectively restricting substantial horizontal movement of said hook member in the opposite horizontal direction.

20. (previously added) The tie down system of claim 14, wherein said hook retainer is lockable in a hook retaining position.